

(BL61/2026-IST-ID)

### Post-Doctoral Research Fellowships

Applications are open for 1 Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, within the framework of project “*LIVStab - Fungal growth control for bio-stabilized building solutions*”, BASE-UID/6438/2025, of CERIS – Civil Engineering Research and Innovation for Sustainability of Instituto Superior Técnico, financed by national funds through FCT/MCTES and co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (FEDER), under the Partnership Agreement PT2030, under the following conditions:

**Scientific Area:** “Biological Sciences” or “Materials Engineering” or “Agricultural Sciences”.

**Admission Requirements:**

- a) *to hold a PhD degree obtained in the 3 years previously to the submission of the fellowship application;*
- b) *to have carried out the research work that led to the PhD degree in a different entity from the host institution of the fellowship;*
- c) *Not to exceed, with this fellowship contract, including the possible renovations, an accumulated period of 3 years in this type of fellowship, continuously or with interruptions;*
- d) *Not to have previously held a post-doctoral fellowship from IST-ID.*

**Workplan:** The postdoctoral researcher will be working mainly on Task 1 (T1) of the project: i) identification, selection, and collection of fungal strains; ii) assessment of optimal conditions for fungal growth and bonding efficiency, iii) optimization of inactivation protocols through controlled temperature variations; iv) development of a fungal respiration monitoring protocol to validate inactivation effectiveness. The optimization of growth conditions for lignocellulose-decaying fungi in mycelium-stabilized earthen mortars production will first identify the most suitable fungal species and establish the best environmental conditions for their development within the cellulosic fibers from biomass (T1.1). By the end of T1.1, the fungal isolates, substrates and best growing conditions will be identified for the mycelium inoculation in earthen mortars. To do so, a device for continuous monitoring of fungal growth on Petri dish needs to be implemented. The successive phases of the task will explore the control of mycelium spread through the optimization of inactivation protocol (T1.2). After that (T1.3), the re-exposure to growth media in the Petri dish to best growing conditions will confirm the effectiveness of the inactivation protocol. T1 will end with the delivery of three mortar formulations (Milestone 1, M1). The activities will be carried out mainly within the framework of Task 1 and Task 4. The post-doctoral student must actively participate in the preparation of scientific reports and papers for international journals. Might also co-supervise master students active on the project and help coordinate science dissemination events in the framework of the project.

**Legislation and Regulations:** Statute of Scientific Research Fellow, approved by Law nr. 40/2004, of August 18, as worded by Decree-Law nr. 123/2019, of August 28; FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships, available on <https://dre.pt/application/file/a/127230968>.

**Workplace:** The work will be developed at CERIS – Civil Engineering Research and Innovation for Sustainability, Department of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Environment of Instituto Superior Técnico, and the CERIS NOVA HUB at NOVA School of Science and Technology, under the joint scientific supervision of Dr. Alessandra Ranesi and Professors Paulina Faria and Rafaela Cardoso. Displacements to CERIS UCoimbra HUB at IteCons may be needed.

**Duration:** The research fellowship(s) will have a duration of 6 months. It is expected to begin in May 2026 and may be eventually renewed up to the maximum of 15 months, including the duration of the initial contract.



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**Monthly maintenance allowance:** According to the values for Research Fellowships awarded by FCT in Portugal (<https://www.fct.pt/fct-atualizou-o-valor-das-bolsas-para-2025>), the amount of the monthly maintenance allowance is € 1851.00, being the payment method an option of the Fellow by Wire Transfer/Check.

**Selection methods:** The selection method will be the *Curriculum Vitae* evaluation. The jury may call the best-selected candidates for an individual interview. In this case, the curriculum evaluation and the individual interview (in-person or online) will have a weighting factor of 75% and 25%, respectively. If none of the candidates demonstrate a suitable profile, the studentship will not be awarded.

**Composition of the selection Jury:** Professors Maria Rafaela Pinheiro Cardoso (President) and Maria Paulina Santos Forte de Faria Rodrigues (Jury Member) and Dr. Alessandra Ranesi (Jury Member). Substitute Juror: Dr. José Manuel Carita Gonçalves and Dr. João António Soares de Almeida or Dr. Davor Kržišni.

**Announcement/ notification of the results:** The final evaluation results will be communicated to all applicants by email.

**Deadlines and procedures of complaint and appeal.** A complaint may be lodged from the final decision within 15 working days, or an appeal to the Executive Board of IST-ID within 30 working days, both counted from the respective notification

**Application deadline and formalization:** The call is open from March 26 until April 9, 2026.

It is mandatory to formalize applications with the submission of the following documents: i) B1 Form – Fellowship application (<https://ist-id.pt/recursos-humanos/bolseiros/#documentos-relacionados>); ii) *Curriculum Vitae*; iii) academic degree certificate; iv) motivation letter; v) declaration on honour that the applicant complies with the admission requirements previously listed.

Applications must be submitted to the email: [bolsas@drh.tecnico.ulisboa.pt](mailto:bolsas@drh.tecnico.ulisboa.pt)



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